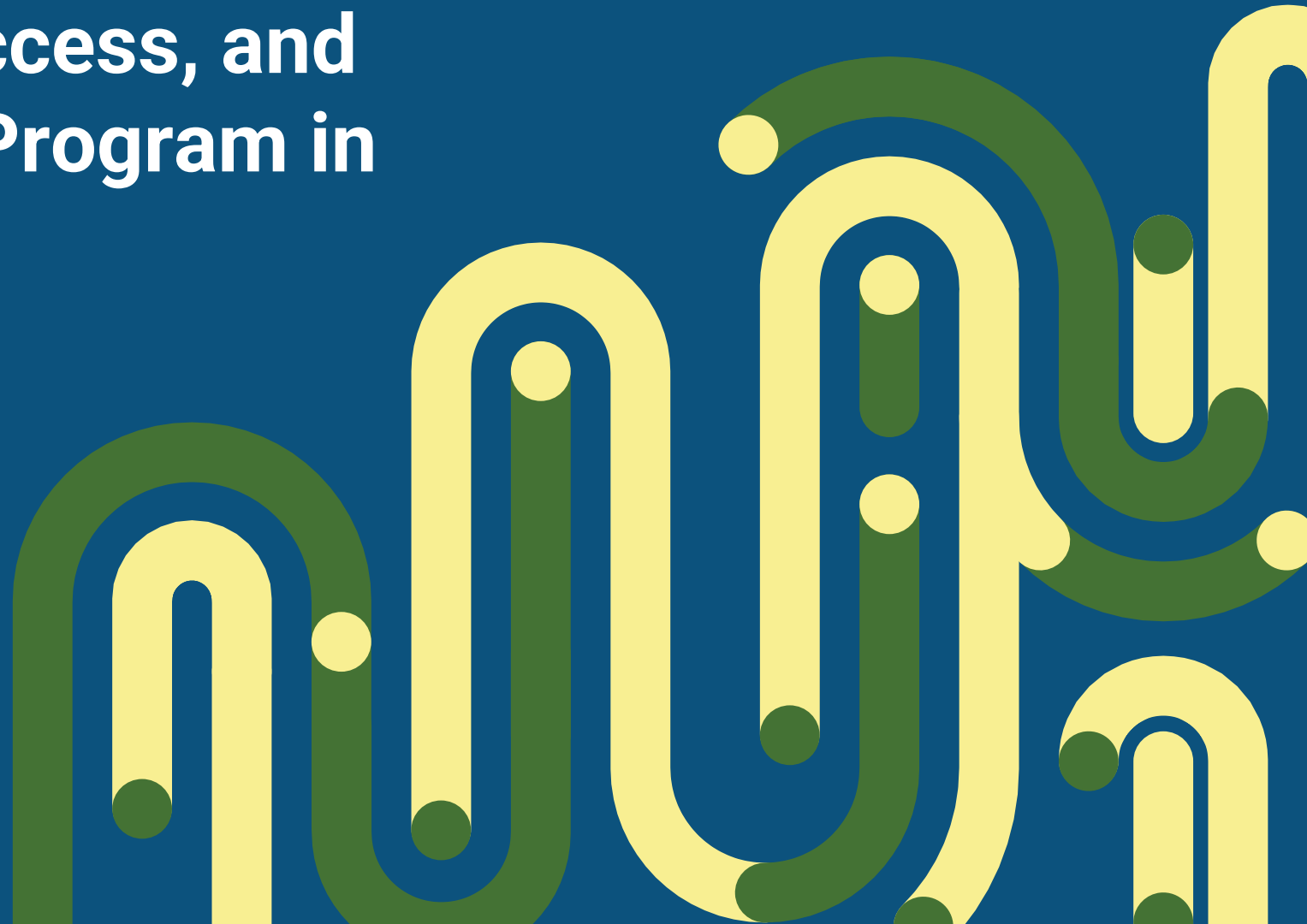


Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program in New Jersey

Application Process Overview
June 2025



New Jersey Office of Broadband Connectivity



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New Jersey Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (NJ BEAD) Program

New Jersey's BEAD Eligible Locations Map

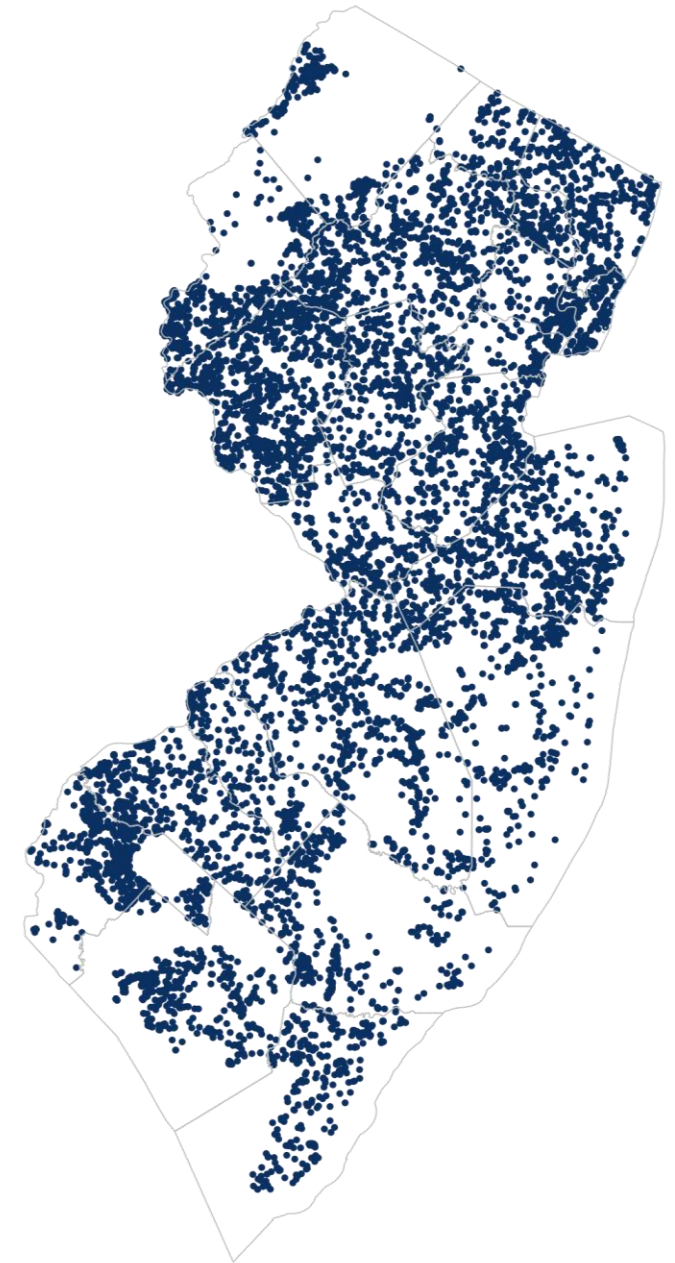
11,888



BEAD-eligible Broadband Serviceable Locations (BSLs)¹ across the State of New Jersey

1. The dataset on the OBC website includes Broadband Serviceable Locations (BSLs) with final classifications as unserved or underserved, as determined through the approved challenge process. A list of post-challenge Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs) is also included. The data is based on FCC Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric version 4 (as of 12/31/2023), with applicable updates from version 6 (as of 12/31/2024). Please note, locations that are part of an existing enforceable commitment in New Jersey have been omitted from the "Post Challenge Location" file. This includes projects anticipated to be awarded through the New Jersey Broadband Infrastructure Deployment Equity (NJBIDE) Pilot Program.

Source: <https://www.nj.gov/connect/grants/bead/>



There are 4 key parts of the NJ BEAD subgrantee selection process

Note: The programmatic changes in the Policy Notice may affect the application process; Once NTIA publishes the Policy Notice, OBC will make any necessary adjustments to program requirements or deadlines to maintain compliance with NTIA guidance

Source: New Jersey's Initial Proposal Volume 2

1

Prequalification:

April 14 – June 13, 2025

Prequalification is the first step in OBC's subgrant process, and only those who successfully prequalify will be considered for an award

2

Application:

May 27 – June 19, 2025

(Additional phase may follow depending on outcome)

OBC will review applications once the applicant has successfully prequalified

Provisional award may be issued directly after the current application phase

3

Deconfliction and direct negotiation

Timing TBD

OBC will perform a process of deconfliction, if required, to evaluate partially overlapping applications

OBC will engage in direct negotiations with providers, if necessary

4

Provisional award - *Timing TBD*

Following the process of deconfliction, OBC will make provisional awards to applicants

For each application, applicants select a combination of PABBs they will serve and specify BEAD subsidy requests

ILLUSTRATIVE

Action	Example
Applicants propose a project area consisting of PABBs, which correspond to Census Block Groups (CBGs) ¹	Applicant A submits Project Area A which includes three PABBs: CBG 1 , CBG 2 , and CBG 3
Applicants are encouraged to designate PABBs as separable ² and submit separate subsidy requests, in addition to the subsidy request for the overall project area	Applicant A requests \$X for the proposed Project Area A Applicant A designates CBG 1 as a separable PABB, and requests \$Y for CBG 1
Applicants may refer to the reference price to understand the benchmark which OBC will use for evaluating subsidy requests	Total reference price for Project Area A is used to benchmark the \$X request for scoring If CBG 1 is competitive, the reference price for CBG 1 will be used to benchmark the \$Y request



1. For Phase 1 Application, PABBs are equivalent to CBGs. During the potential Phase 2 Application, OBC might group multiple CBGs as a single PABB
2. Designation of separable PABBs implies that should providers not be awarded their entire proposed project area, providers are open to either receiving the remaining portion, after the removal of some/all of the designated separable PABBs, or receiving only some/all of the designated separable PABBs

Note: The programmatic changes in the Policy Notice may affect the application process; Once NTIA publishes the Policy Notice, OBC will make any necessary adjustments to program requirements or deadlines to maintain compliance with NTIA guidance

Reminders for applicants

Note: The programmatic changes in the Policy Notice may affect the application process; Once NTIA publishes the Policy Notice, OBC will make any necessary adjustments to program requirements or deadlines to maintain compliance with NTIA guidance

Source: New Jersey's Initial Proposal Volume 2

- 1 Applicants may prepare and submit applications before receiving notification of the outcome of prequalification
- 2 All providers of any technology type can submit an application for NJ BEAD
- 3 Applicants may submit multiple applications, and in doing so must be prepared to accept any application OBC provisionally awards.

Individual Project Area Building Blocks (PABBs) can be included in up to two applications, which will allow potential subgrantees to express a wide range of preferences for proposed deployment efforts

Updates to the NJ BEAD process

Current as of 06/04/2025

Recent updates

- NTIA is has notified all states, including New Jersey, that it is conducting a detailed review of the BEAD program and will issue a Policy Notice detailing programmatic changes
- NTIA has granted a 90-day extension to the original Final Proposal deadline for all BEAD eligible entities in advance of this Policy Notice

1. The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) administers the BEAD Program, a \$42.45 billion program designed to bring broadband to all locations in the United States. Each state has received an allocation from NTIA and manages its own program to make broadband awards.

Impact on NJ BEAD timeline

- The NJ BEAD prequalification window is extended until 5:00 PM ET on June 13, 2025
- The NJ BEAD application window is open from May 27, 2025 until **5:00 PM ET on June 19, 2025**
- The programmatic changes in the Policy Notice may affect the application process; Once NTIA publishes the Policy Notice, OBC will make any necessary adjustments to program requirements or deadlines to maintain compliance with NTIA guidance
- New Jersey's Final Proposal is now due to NTIA on Nov 21, 2025

Source: NTIA BEAD NOFO; New Jersey's NTIA-approved Initial Proposal Volume 2; NTIA Notice of Programmatic Waiver for Final Proposal extension

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How to submit your application

The process for submitting an application is similar to NJBIDE

1

Complete the [Application Intake Form](#) (walkthrough to follow)

2

Complete all other required documents (Listed on the [Resources for NJ BEAD Applicants](#) page)

3

Submit all required documents to the BPU e-Filing System ([Infoshare](#)) referencing Docket No. **T025020078**

- Please follow the naming convention described on the [Resources for NJ BEAD Applicants](#) page. If updating a document, please add a version suffix (_v2) to the name of the new document
- A walkthrough for how to submit files through the BPU e-Filing System has been posted on the [Resources for NJ BEAD Applicants](#) page

Helpful Links



[Resources for NJ BEAD Applicants](#)



[BPU e-Filing System \(Infoshare\)](#)



[BPU e-Filing System Walkthrough](#)

What to submit for the NJ BEAD Application

Required documents | For each application, submit the following documents:

Item	Naming convention
Application Intake Form (template provided)	[ApplicantName]_[ProjectName]_NJBEAD_application.xlsx
BSL shapefiles (template provided – See tab “11. BSLs” of the Application Intake Form)	[ApplicantName]_[ProjectName]_NJBEAD_BSL
CAI shapefiles (template provided – See tab “12. CAIs” of the Application Intake Form)	[ApplicantName]_[ProjectName]_NJBEAD_CAI
High-level route map shapefiles	[ApplicantName]_[ProjectName]_NJBEAD_RouteMap
Program Conditions Form	[ApplicantName]_[ProjectName]_NJBEAD_ProgramConditions.pdf

Optional documents | For each application, applicants may submit the following documents:

Item	Naming convention
Letters of Support from local governments	[ApplicantName]_[ProjectName]_NJBEAD_SupportLetter.pdf
Proof of substantial efforts to engage with local government	[ApplicantName]_[ProjectName]_NJBEAD_EffortToEngage.pdf

Source: New Jersey’s NTIA-approved Initial Proposal Volume 2; NJ BEAD Prequalification Intake Form

Note: The programmatic changes in the Policy Notice may affect the application process; Once NTIA publishes the Policy Notice, OBC will make any necessary adjustments to program requirements or deadlines to maintain compliance with NTIA guidance

To obtain the coordinates of unserved and underserved BSLs, applicants should access the Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric

Applicants can obtain coordinates by using the Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric, which can be accessed by obtaining a no-cost Tier D license from CostQuest

The Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric (Fabric) is a dataset of all locations in the United States and its Territories where fixed broadband internet access service is or could be installed

The Fabric file is a .csv file that includes the unique location_id for each location, the latitude/longitude for each location record as well as other attribute information

The Fabric is available to recipients, sub-recipients, and prospective recipients of federal broadband funds from Federal Broadband Granting Agencies through a Tier D license



Due to processing time, applicants should request an NTIA license as soon as possible.

Instructions for requesting a Tier D license:

Link:

[Requesting a TIER D License V3 10-4.pdf](#)

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Resources for applicants

Stage in NJ BEAD

Resource

Status

Prequalification



[Prequalification Intake Form](#)

Available online (Version 1.1)

Prequalification Webinar: [Recording/Presentation](#)

Held on April 15th, 2025

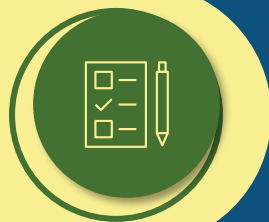
Prequalification Webinar 2: [Recording/Presentation](#)

Held on April 29th, 2025

Office Hours: [Recording](#)

Held on May 29th, 2025

Application



[PABB Reference prices](#)

Available online

[Application Intake Form](#)

Available online

[Application Instructions](#)

Available online

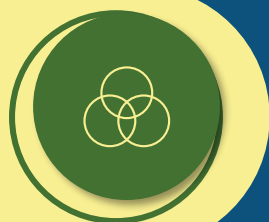
Eligible [BSLs](#) and [CAIs](#)

Available online

[Application Intake Form Walkthrough](#)

Available online

General



[NJ BEAD NOFA](#)

Available online

[NJ BEAD FAQs](#)

Available online (updated May 30, 2025)

[e-Filing Walkthrough](#)

Available online (updated April 24, 2025)

Walkthrough of Application Intake Form

Q&A session follows



New Jersey Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program "(NJ BEAD)"

Application intake form, version 1.0

Application overview

Pre-qualified applicants must use this intake form to submit an NJ BEAD Phase 1 Application. For detailed information about the NJ BEAD subgrantee selection process, see New Jersey's Initial Proposal Vol. II. Additional guidance and information is available on OBC's website.

Resources

[NJ OBC BEAD Website](#)

[NJ BEAD Initial Proposal Vol 2](#)

Sheet legend

Blue tabs are the application questions

Black sheet is the reference for PABBs and reference prices

Response instructions

Cells in the "Response" column are color coded to indicate their status or required action, as described below. Note that the color of certain cells may change based on the applicants' responses to specific questions.

Yellow cells: Applicant to complete

Blue cells: Applicant has completed (i.e., yellow will turn blue once completed)

Gray cells: For reference or auto-completed based on information from other cells. No action required.

Green cells: Auto-populated, indicating the section is relevant, and responses are valid. No action required.

Red cells: Auto-populated, indicating missing or invalid responses. Review the text prompt and update accordingly.



Questions?

For more information,
email us at broadband@bpu.nj.gov

Please include “**BEAD**” in the subject line of your email